

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05
SS-15 STR-07 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 SP-02 SOE-02
OMB-01 DOE-11 STRE-00 /127 W

-----114741 221147Z /17

R 220858Z FEB 78

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5466

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 2875

USEEC ALSO FOR AMEMBASSY

USMTN ALSO FOR USMISSION

USOECD ALSO FOR AMEMBASSY

DEPARTMENT ALSO PASS STR ELECTRONICALLY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EEC, OECD, MTN, ETRD, JA

SUBJECT: JAPAN-EC TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

REF: (A) BRUSSELS 2359, (B) TOKYO 2134

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SUMMARY: JAPANESE OFFICIALS WERE SURPRISED AT LACK OF
DEPTH OF MEYNELL PRESENTATION DURING RECENT JAPAN-EC TRADE
TALKS. ONLY ACCOMPLISHMENT BEYOND CONCURRENCE TO HOLD MORE
TALKS WAS AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH A MARKET STUDY GROUP
WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF ANNUAL JAPAN-EC BILATERAL MEETINGS.
DANISH FOREIGN MINISTER ANDERSON WILL CONTINUE TRADE

DISCUSSIONS DURING VISIT FEB. 27-MAR 1. END SUMMARY.

1. JAPANESE WERE SURPRISED AT GENERAL NATURE OF EC DIRECTOR GENERAL MEYNELL'S VISIT, ACCORDING TO MOFA OFFICIAL CONCERNED WITH THE VISIT. MEYNELL WAS ALONE THROUGH MOST OF THE NEGOTIATIONS, MOFA OFFICIAL SAID, AND LACKED THE EXPERTISE NEEDED TO DISCUSS THE 146 ITEM INDUSTRIAL LIST AND THE 27 ITEM AGRICULTURAL LIST HE BROUGHT WITH HIM TO PRESENT TO THE GOJ.

2. THE MEETINGS REPORTEDLY ACCOMPLISHED LITTLE, BUT THE EC AND JAPAN DID AGREE TO IMPLEMENT THE JULY 1977 AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH A MARKET STUDY GROUP. ALTHOUGH MEYNELL SEEMED HAPPY TO HEAR THIS, IT WAS APPARENTLY JAPAN THAT WANTED TO ACCELERATE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE GROUP. PROCEDURES REMAIN TO BE WORKED OUT, BUT THE GROUP WILL PROBABLY MEET WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF REGULARLY HELD JAPAN-EC BILATERAL MEETINGS. ALSO, THERE IS AN EC DESIRE FOR PARTICIPATION BY BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVES. THE GOJ IS COOL TO THE IDEA AND WOULD NOT, FOR INSTANCE, CONSIDER PRIVATE PARTICIPATION IN DISCUSSIONS OF TARIFF REDUCTIONS. HOWEVER, IT MIGHT BE ACCEPTABLE FOR DISCUSSIONS ON DISTRIBUTION PROBLEMS, HE SAID.

3. DANISH FOREIGN MINISTER ANDERSON IS SCHEDULED TO
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CONTINUE THE TALKS WITH A VISIT FEB. 27 THROUGH MARCH 1. THE GOJ EXPECTS THESE TALKS TO BE A BROAD REITERATION OF EC EXPECTATIONS FOR JAPAN TO ACHIEVE ITS ANNOUNCED 7 PERCENT ECONOMIC GROWTH TARGET AND WORK TOWARD SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTION IN ITS TRADE SURPLUS WITH THE EC.
MANSFIELD

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